

2006 DISABILITY ACCESS CONFERENCE MAINLAND SPEAKERS

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS (Alphabetical Order)

Lex Frieden, Chairperson, National Council on Disability, Keynote and Workshops

Lex Frieden is the Chairperson of the National Council on Disability, appointed by President George W. Bush and confirmed by the Senate on July 26, 2002. The National Council on Disability is an independent federal agency charged with making recommendations on disability policy issues to the President and Congress. Mr. Frieden is also the Senior Vice President at The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research (TIRR) in Houston, Texas, a comprehensive medical rehabilitation center which provides clinical, educational, and research programs pertaining to spinal cord and brain injuries and other disabling conditions. He is also Director of TIRR's Independent Living Research Utilization Program and Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Baylor College of Medicine. Lex Frieden was also named 'Person of the Year' in the January 2006 issues of New Mobility Magazine due, in part, to his exemplary leadership on behalf of people with disabilities after Hurricane Katrina.

Michael J. Lotito, Esq., Partner, Jackson Lewis LLP San Francisco, California, Keynote and Workshops

Michael Lotito is a partner at Jackson Lewis LLP, a law firm that specializes in preventive labor, employment, immigration, and benefits law, representing management since its founding in 1958. The firm has 375 lawyers working in 21 offices throughout the country.

Mr. Lotito has received lifetime SPHR certification in the human resources field. He chaired the 200,000-member Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) in 2000. He served as chairman of SHRM's National Legislative Affairs Committee and also served on its Employee and Labor Relations Committee. In these and other capacities he has influenced important legislation including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Michael Lotito has co-authored several books on the ADA including *The Americans with Disabilities Act: A Comprehensive Guide to Title I; What Managers & Supervisors Need to Know About the ADA*; and *Making the ADA Work for You* (2nd ed.). With his partner Lynn Outwater, he has also co-authored a book on privacy titled *Minding Your Business: Legal Issues and Practical Answers for Managing Workplace Privacy*.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

(Alphabetical Order)

Ben Bongalon, Coordinator of Accessible Information Technology, Pacific ADA & IT Center, Oakland, California

Ben Bongalon coordinates the Accessible IT project of the Pacific ADA & IT Center (Pacific DBTAC), promoting the awareness and use of accessible mainstream technology in education. He has presented at numerous conferences, seminars, and workshops on the topic of technology accessibility, and has consulted with educational entities on technology access issues.

Prior to his employment at Pacific DBTAC, Mr. Bongalon taught computer and job skills classes at Peninsula Works, a one-stop career center in California and led product development of software, Web and wireless mobile applications for leading companies in the Silicon Valley and Australia. He received a Master's Degree in Computer Engineering from University of Santa Clara.

William R. Botten, Accessibility Specialist, Office of Technical and Information Services, U.S. Access Board, Washington, D.C.

William R. Botten, an Exercise Physiology graduate from the University of Kansas, joined the U.S. Access Board in May of 2000. Previously, he was Director of the Office of Accessible Seating/Services for Centre Management, a national sports arena management company. His responsibilities included ensuring compliance with State and Federal accessibility requirements at all managed properties, as well as working with design and construction officials during arena construction and alterations.

Mr. Botten's training experience includes hundred of presentations over the last 16 years to local, state, and national audiences on injury prevention, disability awareness and sensitivity, and accessibility issues. He is currently part of a team developing the new combined guidelines for the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Architectural Barriers Act. Mr. Botten specializes in access issues related to recreation facilities and also provides technical assistance to the building design and construction industry as well as State and Federal agencies and consumers with disabilities.

Linda Burkhart, Author, Teacher, and Assistive Technology Specialist, Eldersburg, Maryland

Linda Burkhart is a nationally known pioneer in the field of simplified technology for children with severe disabilities. She has developed numerous adapted switches and innovative applications for using these devices with children. She is the author of four

books: two on homemade battery devices, one on using speech synthesis to facilitate communicative interaction, and one on total augmentative communication in the early childhood classroom.

Linda Burkhart is a well-known teacher and leader in the field of assistive technology, adaptive play, and augmentative communication for children who face significant disabilities. She has conducted workshops and presentations nationally and internationally since 1982. She has also developed many publications and software to be used in these areas.

Dinah F.B. Cohen, Director, Computer/Electronic Accommodations Program (CAP), U.S. Department of Defense, Washington, D.C.

Dinah F.B. Cohen is the Director for the Department of Defense's (DoD) Computer/Electronic Accommodations Program. Ms. Cohen works closely with senior leadership through the Federal Sector to ensure employees, beneficiaries, and members of the public with disabilities have equal access to Federal services and employment.

Ms. Cohen is the 2005 recipient of the Fred Strache Leadership Award sponsored by the California State University, Northridge Center on Disabilities, the Federal 100 Award, and the DoD Exceptional Civilian Service Award for her leadership, impact on the development, acquisition and management of information technology in the Federal government. Ms. Cohen is a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor. She received her Master's of Science Degree in Counseling Psychology with concentration in Rehabilitation Counseling from the State University of New York.

Erica C. Jones, Director and Principal Investigator, Pacific Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center, Oakland, California

Erica C. Jones is the Director and Principal Investigator for the Pacific Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center (Pacific ADA and IT Center), the Region IX Federal grantee to provide technical assistance in complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act and various information technology laws for persons with disabilities. Ms. Jones has been the Director since 1991. Prior to this position, Ms. Jones was the Director for the Office of Public Affairs and a Legislative Analyst for the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Jones has an extensive background in Hawaii. She was the former Executive Director of the Hawaii Centers for Independent Living from 1982-1990, and served for two years prior as Deputy Director, Peer Counselor, and Director of Personal Assistance Services. Ms. Jones is a graduate of the University of Hawaii, School of Public Health, with a Master's of Public Health in Health Services Administration and the Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling.

Mark J. Mazz, AIA, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Mark J. Mazz joined the Department of Justice in September 2000. Since 1977, he has been responsible for the accessibility projects in his private practice and in other offices where he received awards for his barrier-free design and planning work. He has focused his career on the ADA, Fair Housing, Section 504, and the Architectural Barriers Act. He has lectured from Honolulu to Vilnius about accessible design and survey techniques.

Mr. Mazz also was the chair of the Maryland Society of Architects Code Committee for four years. During his tenure, he helped write the Maryland Rehabilitation Code (Maryland's Smart Code).

Marsha K. Mazz, Senior Accessibility Specialist and Technical Assistance Coordinator, Office of Technical and Information Services, U.S. Access Board, Washington, D.C.

Marsha K. Mazz joined the staff of the U.S. Access Board in 1989 and is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts. She holds the position of Technical Assistance Coordinator and is a Senior Accessibility Specialist. Ms. Mazz provides technical input to and oversight of the continued development of the ADA Accessibility Guidelines. She oversees the technical assistance program that includes the Board's toll-free responses to questions about access in buildings and facilities covered by the ADA and the Architectural Barriers Act. In addition, she is the Access Board's representative to the model code organizations and is on the ICC/ANSI A117 Committee on Architectural Features and Site Design of Public Buildings and Residential Structures for Persons with Disabilities and the ASME A18 Committee on Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts.

Carol R. Miaskoff, Assistant Legal Counsel, Coordination, Office of Legal Counsel, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Washington, D.C.

Carol R. Miaskoff is an Assistant Legal Counsel at the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Ms. Miaskoff supervises development of the EEOC's regulations and policy and represents the agency in negotiations with other federal departments and agencies that regulate the workplace. In recent years, Ms. Miaskoff supervised development of the Commission's guidance on national origin discrimination and post-9/11 backlash, as well as the proposal to revise the EEO-1 reporting form. Ms. Miaskoff also focuses on issues related to psychiatric disabilities and the ADA.

**Sharon Terrell-Lindsay, Computer/Electronic Accommodations Program (CAP)
Dexterity Team Leader, Department of Defense, Washington, D.C.**

Sharon Terrell-Lindsay is a Program Analyst for the Department of Defense Computer/Electronic Accommodations Program (CAP). She has been a valued Federal employee for 29 years with experience in Program/Project Management, and effective Marketing and Sales skills, with emphasis on automation efforts and technology assessment. Ms. Terrell-Lindsay's combination of strong leadership, supervisory skills, and technical background, allow her to perform well in a team environment. She is also a recipient of the former Vice President Gore's Hammer Award for \$70 million annual savings based on innovative and effective automation initiatives. She is also one of the recipients of the 2004 Federal 100 by Federal Computer Week.

Currently, Ms. Terrell-Lindsay is the team leader responsible for purchasing accommodations for individuals with dexterity impairments. She is also responsible for supporting and purchasing accommodations for several CAP Initiatives that include Workers Compensation Claimants, Telework Participants, and the CAP Ergonomics – Healthy Work Practices Program. In addition, she provides ergonomic workstation evaluations and needs assessments.

**John L. Wodatch, Chief, Disability Rights Section, Civil Rights Division, U.S.
Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.**

John L. Wodatch is a civil rights attorney with over 30 years experience with the Federal Government, specializing in the rights of persons with disabilities. He is Chief of the Disability Rights Section in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, responsible for enforcement of Titles I, II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act. He plays a key role in developing Administration policy on the Americans with Disabilities Act and is the chief author of the Department of Justice's ADA regulations and of the Federal regulations implementing section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. He received a Bachelor's Degree from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut, a Master's of Public Administration from Harvard University, and a Juris Doctor from the Georgetown University Law Center.